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Summary Report

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INTERIOR CONFIGURATION OF TYPE IV WARHEAD TRANSPORTER, TYURATAM, USSR (TSR)

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(TSR) [] a type IV warhead transporter was identified without its environmental cover for the first time (Figure 1). The transporter was in the [] at Tyuratam Missile/Space Test Center (MSTC) SSM, USSR []. On this coverage and the interior configuration of the transporter was discernible.

(TSR) The type IV warhead transporter is used to transport and mate reentry vehicle (RV) payloads with the SS-17 and SS-19 missile systems and possibly with the SS-11 (Mod 4). The vehicle comprises a transporter/trailer pulled by a probable ZIL-type prime mover. The transporter is environmentally protected by a peak-roofed cover with a sloping aft section. During warhead mating exercises, the cover is hinged to the transporter near the front and can be raised approximately 60 degrees from a horizontal plane to allow adequate clearance while lifting the RV payload with the inboard crane. On [] the cover had been removed from the transporter and placed upright on a road within the NWHF, 43 meters southeast of the western payload handling building. The transporter was not within the NWHF on this date, but by [] it was observed in the parking area of the NWHF without the cover. Details of the bed of the transporter could be determined on imagery of [] and on successive coverages.

(TSR) The bed of the transporter measures []. A probable telescoping crane is mounted on the centerline of the transporter bed [] from the aft end. On [] imagery of [] the crane was extended horizontally over the forward portion of the transporter to its probable maximum length of [] (Figure 1). The crane can be rotated at least 180 degrees from this position.

(TSR) A small area aft of the crane that is enclosed by a curved wall section is probably the control point for a crane operator. A plate which forms an integral part of the transporter slopes from the forward wall [] toward the center of the bed of the transporter. This slope probably creates a space under the transporter that may possibly house a front-end support stand. Although the height of the side walls of the transporter could not be accurately determined, the walls appear to slope downward from front to back and may be hinged to facilitate the transfer of the RV payload. The dimensions of the floor between the sloped front plate and the crane are []. This area is available for the RV payload and possibly for the RV shroud (Figure 2).

(TSR) From [] the type IV warhead transporter was observed 19 times without the environmental cover at different locations within the NWHF. On [] the transporter was not observed within the NWHF; however, on [] it was observed adjacent to a site support building at Tyuratam ICBM Launch Test Site S9 [] (Figure 3).

(TSR) The removal of the environmental cover and the subsequent movements of the transporter about the rangehead are not fully understood. There is no known precedent for the use of a warhead transporter in other than nuclear-associated functions. Therefore, it is possible that the transporter without the cover is used in an auxiliary or support capacity. Also, a second type IV warhead transporter has been observed at Tyuratam MSTC Payload

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Handling Facility [redacted] The presence of this additional transporter would probably provide sufficient capability for handling the payloads of the SS-17 and SS-19 missile systems at the rangehead.

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] Soviet Strategic Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted]

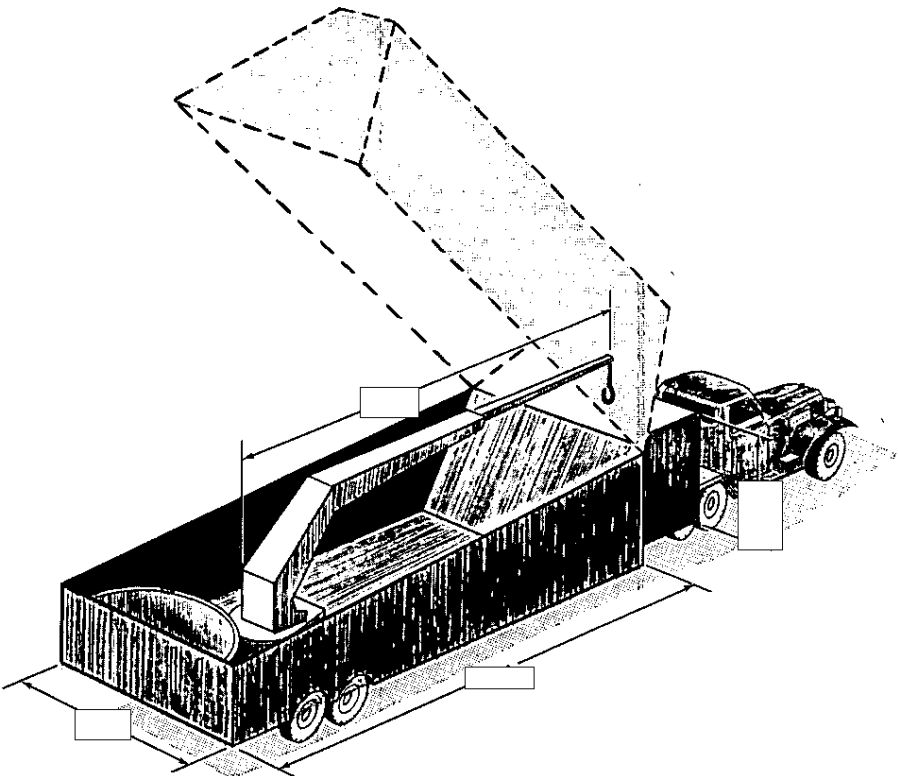
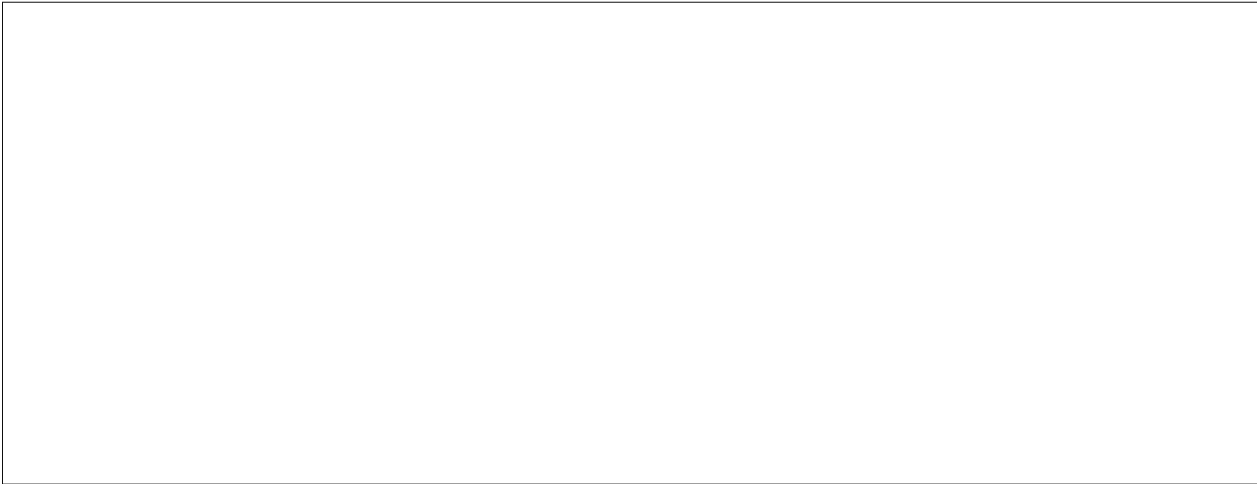


FIGURE 2. CONCEPTUAL DRAWING OF THE INTERIOR CONFIGURATION OF THE TYPE IV WARHEAD TRANSPORTER



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